

## CITIZEN SLOGGED AND LEFT TO DIE.

Traveling Freight Agent for  
Northwestern St. Ck Down  
By Highwayman.

HAS SEVERE SCALP WOUND.

Holdup Occurred Monday Night and  
Man Spent all of Tuesday in Semi-  
Conscious Condition.

After lying in his room in a semi-conscious condition for 30 hours, H. W. Edgerton, traveling freight agent for the Chicago & Northwestern here, mechanically made his way to the office of the railroad company this morning to report for work.

As he entered the office he presented a horrible condition. His overcoat, hat and vest were soaked with dry blood, his hair was matted and his eyes and left ear were blacked. Above the ear was a wound crusted with blood.

General Agent C. A. Walker promptly went to his assistance and took him to a seat. On removing the overcoat, hat, Mr. Walker observed a scalp wound on the top of his head that extended from the crown well over to the forehead.

On questioning Mr. Edgerton all he got was a glassy stare and a few disjointed sentences to the effect that he had been slogged last night by a couple of holdups.

**ROBBED OF \$35.**  
Investigation, however, proves that Mr. Edgerton was struck down at the entrance to the alley east of the board of Trade building on Monday night at 10:30, and had been robbed of \$35. The thug did not complete his work and overlooked a pocketbook containing annual passes on railroads, papers and a bunch of keys.

Mr. Edgerton with great effort stated to the "News" this morning that he was hit by two men, and then two more men came and took him to his room.

**WHAT POLICE SAY.**  
The police tell a different story. They say that a young man saw Edgerton lying on the sidewalk with a tall man stooping over him. He ran across to see what was the matter when the tall fellow took to his heels. He asked Mr. Edgerton what was the matter, when the latter said, "For God's sake don't hit me again, take my money and let me be." At this the young fellow became frightened, and not wishing to be mixed up in the case he went to the nearest telephone and called up the police. When the police arrived on the scene Mr. Edgerton was nowhere to be seen.

The theory is that he mechanically walked to his room just half a block distant without assistance.

Mr. Edgerton rooms at 218 Shaw terrace, where until a week ago he shared a room with Mr. Beardsley, traveling agent for the Northwestern, who was transferred to Boise some days ago.

**LANDLADY'S STORY.**

In explaining how it was possible for a sorely wounded man to lie in his room for 36 hours without anyone knowing it the landlady this morning made the following statement: "Mr. Beardsley hired the room and I had nothing to do with Mr. Edgerton who since he has been here has spent most of the time out of town. I did not know him, neither did I know any of his friends. I left the front door unlocked for him on Monday night and heard him go staggering and stumbling upstairs. I thought under the circumstances that he had been out with some jolly companions, although I had never seen him before. Yesterday afternoon I knocked at his door but could get nothing from him but incoherent talk. Towards evening I knocked again and he told me he did not want his room touched. I did not like to report the affair to Mr. Walker of the Chicago & Northwestern, because really I believed that Mr. Edgerton was sleeping off a drunk and he would not thank me for reporting him."

**NOT A DRINKING MAN.**

All Mr. Edgerton's friends assert that he is not a drinking man. Dr. W. D. Hines, who said goodbye to Mr. Edgerton at 10:30 p. m., five minutes before he was slogged, states that when the railroad man left the corner of Main and Second South to walk to the two blocks to his room, he was perfectly sober.

Detective Raleigh, who interviewed, or at least tried to, Mr. Edgerton this morning, is of the opinion that the unfortunate man was hit from behind, and that he never saw the thug who struck him down. From the nature of the wounds everything points to this theory.

**BLOOD STAINED ROOM.**

How he ever reached his room is a mystery. This morning it looked like a shambles. The pillows and bedding were soaked and the places where he rested his head against the wall are splashed with blood. The carpets also bore mute testimony to his presence.

As Mr. Edgerton was to have left town yesterday, he was not missed at the office, and he might have died in his room without any assistance being available. As it was it was his hat that saved him. This is covered with blood and is broken in two places, on the brim at the back and on the side of the crown.

The same lone thug who was identified with four other slugging affairs within an hour in the same vicinity is believed to be responsible for the brutal assault. Mr. Edgerton is now under the care of a doctor, but is still dazed and complains of the cold and pains in his head.

**HE BORROWED MONEY.**

Alleged Mining Man Works Graft and Suddenly Disappears.

A case of somewhat mysterious actions of an alleged mining man, who gave the name of Schmidt, came to light this morning.

It is claimed that several days ago Schmidt entered the office of Allis & Chalmers, stating that he was a mining man from Montana, and contracted for about \$4,000 worth of electrical machinery. During the discussion of the proposed deal, he managed, it is claimed, to borrow about \$100 from O. S. Jackson and Electrical Engineer Chisholm. The man then disappeared and, it is believed, went to Elko, Nev.

This morning he showed up at the office of the Mine & Smelter Supply company, and tried to work the same scheme, but failed. Word was sent to Allis & Chalmers that Schmidt was in town and an effort was made to locate him. So far as the police department is concerned, the man had not been apprehended up to a late hour this afternoon. In fact, the police claimed they knew nothing whatever about the case.

## ARGUMENTS IN TRIBUNE CASE.

Libel Suit Will Probably be Submitted to Jury Some Time Tomorrow.

THE TESTIMONY IS ALL IN.

Store Keeper Testifies to Having Fixed Up His Books—An Alleged Onion Deal.

The arguments in the Jones-Tribune libel suit will probably be commenced in Judge Ritchie's court this afternoon as practically all of the testimony was in when the court adjourned for the noon recess. Seven witnesses were on the stand during the morning session on sur-rebuttal in behalf of defendants.

Former Commissioner Horne was the first witness but as there was no further examination he was excused and Former Commissioner Barker was called. He denied that he was present at any committee meetings when Supt. Jones reported the sale of stock and produce in Utah and the transaction in any money for the same as testified by James H. Anderson. He said that he knew nothing whatever about the matter until the Sherwood bill was brought to his attention the latter part of 1902.

**STORE KEEPER CALLED.**

Albert Smith was the next witness called. He stated that he owned a store at Eleventh South and State streets, and had sold goods to Supt. Jones. When asked if he knew any other books that would disclose the transactions with plaintiff, he replied that he did not as slips containing the transactions were kept but they were destroyed each year. He testified that he saw plaintiff in the building this morning.

**CHANGE NOT SUGGESTED.**

On cross-examination he said that plaintiff was in his store about 30 minutes yesterday morning and ordered some goods from one of the clerks. He did not remember that Jones suggested that he change the books in any way. Jones called attention to charges which had been paid by a county warrant and which had not been credited on the books so the credit was made yesterday. On the 29th of March he purchased pigs from plaintiff of the value of \$29.75 and paid for them out of the cash register and the credit was made on the books to balance up the account.

**BOOKS EXAMINED.**

Mrs. Sarah Jane Rich Miller was recalled by the defense and said that she saw plaintiff and James H. Anderson working over the books of the infirmary. On cross-examination she stated that she could not say what books they were. She stated that she saw them working on the books just before the change of county commissioners.

**SHERWOOD DENIES.**

Robert Sherwood was next called and denied that he ever made a proposition to plaintiff for the county to pay for provisions for his family. Neither did he suggest that Jones get the money on credit for his family as the county got. He stated that Jones suggested that his account be merged with that of Charles Chisholm and that he never paid until Jones attended to it and he said that he had dealings with Jones and not with the county. He admitted on cross-examination that he knew he received county warrants for the goods sold.

**ALLEGED ONION DEAL.**

Mr. Osborne, an inmate at the infirmary, was called and testified that he helped put a sack of onions in plaintiff's buggy and saw him drive off with them. He could not say when asked by Judge Frick what became of the onions after they were taken away by plaintiff so his testimony was stricken out.

**EVIDENCE NOT ADMITTED.**

Alexander McFarland was then called and was asked why he was discharged from his position at the infirmary but the court refused to allow such testimony to be admitted, so the witness was excused. Charles Chisholm and E. B. Bager were also called but their evidence was not admitted for the reason that it had no connection with the issues in the case. The court then took a noon recess and the arguments were commenced this afternoon.

**HEARD NO COMPLAINTS.**

At the afternoon session yesterday, former County Physician Mayo was the first witness called by plaintiff. He testified that he had visited the county infirmary at least once a week from 1901 to 1902, and he had never heard any complaints about inferior food being served to the inmates. He had often seen the meat and food served, and it appeared to be good. He had never heard of rotten mutton being served at the infirmary. He was not cross-examined by the defense.

**MEAT WAS GOOD.**

Carrie Teiford, landress at the infirmary, was called and testified that she had never seen any of the food that was served to the inmates. She said that she had never seen any of the food that was served to the inmates.

**FAILURES.**

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## FREE HARBOR FOR LOS ANGELES

Dock and Terminal Company Starts its Dredging Operations Near San Pedro.

INJUNCTION AGAINST ROAD.

Salt Lake Route Enjoined From Replacing its Bridge Across a Small Inlet.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 13.—The Los Angeles Dock and Terminal company, which has announced its intention to construct a deep water harbor within the city limits of Long Beach, yesterday made their first effective effort in that direction. Upon request of the Harbor company the Salt Lake Railroad company removed the bridge of their switch track across the narrow inlet which opens into the extensive marsh where the new harbor is to be made, to permit the passage of a dredger to begin the deepening of the harbor. After the dredger has entered and before the railroad company could replace the bridge structure, the dock and terminal company secured a temporary injunction in the United States court restraining the railroad company from replacing the bridge. The dredger then began the work of dredging the harbor.

It is the intention of the company to build a free harbor which will accommodate the largest shipping vessels and be a competing factor with the San Pedro harbor. The cost of the work is estimated at \$1,700,000.

**W. J. RIDD'S INVENTION.**

Claims He Now Has a Progress Switch Which is a Winner.

W. J. Ridd, formerly traveling passenger agent of the Rio Grande here, has invented a patent switch which does away with the fatal frog which in the past has been responsible for so many accidents. Superintendents and trackmen who have examined this device claim that it is a winner and predict that it will find favor wherever it is introduced.

To quote Mr. Ridd, "it is so simple that it is foolish." When it comes to cost it will be some \$30 cheaper than the old-time frog. The device consists of a plate with ball bearings. To this plate is bolted a 4-ft rail, giving a continuous rail. The affair is automatic and locks the same as a safety run. It is claimed that it can never get out of order and will always be absolutely safe.

Should this patent prove a success Mr. Ridd expects to wear diamonds as soon as it is adopted by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

**WATER FOR GRADERS.**

Pipe Line to the Desert is Now Being Operated.

Water is now being pumped from Burnt Springs in Skull valley to the edge of the desert, a distance of 40 miles through a line of pipe that had been installed by the "Farine" engineers of the Utah Construction company. This water solves the problem of the teams and laborers in the various camps that are being erected at intervals across the great American desert on the west side of the lake. T. J. Wyche, division engineer here for the Western Pacific, has returned from a trip to Grantsville where he went to inspect the grade at Low Pass.

**COLONIES FOR S. P. ROAD.**

San Bernardino, Cal., Dec. 13.—The Southern Pacific company has recorded a patent to 75,000 acres of desert land lying along the railroad between Victor and Needles. The land comprises part of the railroad lands known as the Atlantic & Pacific grant. The reason for recording the patent at this time is that the company has plans for placing much of the strip on the market. It is stated that much of the land will be sold in small tracts, the idea being to prevent syndicate purchases.

**SPIKE AND RAIL.**

A carload of gravel from the famous Sherman hill beds on the Union Pacific has been received at Ogden for the depot platform.

Traveling Passenger Agent Kenneth C. Kerr of the Salt Lake Route went to Lynn Junction last night with the Carleton opera company.

The Burlington local general agency reports heavy ticket sales from Utah to the Livestock Exposition at Chicago next week. The tickets are on sale until the 16th.

Donald Stubbs, recently appointed district freight and passenger agent of the Oregon Short Line at Boise, Idaho, is in town today and leaves for Boise tonight to enter upon his duties.

Frank Groesbeck, traveling passenger agent for the Rio Grande, went down to Indianapolis yesterday to make arrangements for sleighs and vehicles to transport the rabbit hunters on the occasion of the grand battue on the 17th.

**IN JUDGE DIEHL'S COURT.**

Alleged Highway Will Plead Tomorrow—Wilson Murder Case.

In Judge Diehl's court this morning, David Evans was arraigned on the charge of attempting to hold up and rob Frank Davies. Evans will enter his plea tomorrow morning.

Paul Koules, a Greek, charged with the slaying of a woman, was arraigned in Judge Diehl's court this morning. His plea tomorrow morning. In the meantime the defendant is in jail.

James Thurman, a man charged with the murder of Fred Williams, at Jim Bradley's gamblinghouse on Commercial street some weeks ago, will be called upon to plead next Friday morning.

**FEATURES OF THE INTERSTATE FAIR.**

A feature to be suggested at next Saturday evening's meeting of the D. & M. directors, for the proposed interstate fair of 1907, will be an invitation to the participating states to erect their own state structures on state grounds; also, that such buildings be made in sections so they can be taken to pieces and removed by the various state managements. It is understood that Idaho will be especially eager to be represented, as the southern part of the state particularly is devoted to producing and regularly shipping its produce to the interstate fair.

Nevada too will have a splendid mining exhibit to make, and Montana will not only have the same, but will also have a large exhibit. All the country west of the 10th meridian can be brought into the scheme. It is believed, noticeably southern California and western Arizona, which have been brought into closer relations with Utah by the San Pedro railroad, but New Mexico is far out of the line of travel, and besides is so absorbed in struggling for statehood, that it is not considered likely that that territory would seriously think of participating. The next Utah Legislature will be asked for \$20,000 to push the interstate fair scheme.

**RAILROAD TIES FROM CORNSTALKS.**

One inventor has come to town with something entirely new. He is J. T. Schaefer, an expert on hydraulic machinery. He is also an expert on induration, or the hardening of substances to make them both fire and water proof, and is well up on extracting fluids from solids, says the New York World.

The inventor's scheme is to manufacture railroad ties out of cornstalks. He has with him at the Victoria Hotel a sample block or brick of his indurated cornstalks, which is as hard as cast iron and of a grayish color. There are in the United States about 200 miles of single track railway, for which are required 200,000 wooden ties. The annual renewal of ties is about 100,000. The wood is giving out and Mr. Schaefer would use pressed cornstalks as a substitute.

Having figured out the geographical relation of the roads to the corn belt, Mr. Schaefer has decided to run his plant to the railroads instead of distributing his ties from a center. As a thrashing machine travels across the country "setting up" at farms where it is required, so this inventor intends to draw his machinery by locomotive to stings along the corn and sugar cane belts and turn out as many as 100 ties an hour. It would require a train of four or five cars. About twenty-five hands would be employed, and a tie could be made in less than a working day of ten hours. "Oak ties," said Mr. Schaefer, "cost 1.33 in northern New York. The cornstalk substitute costs one-third less. The latter will outlast three wooden ties."

All railroads soak their wooden ties in creosote to lengthen their life, and Mr. Schaefer. "The objections to creosoting are that it does not prevent water from soaking in, and the vapors and wood filler. Again it is very expensive, and in the third place creosote is a deadly poison."

"The Wahash experimented with cement ties, but it was necessary to insert wooden plugs into the ends of the spikes and the water swelling the plugs, burst the cement in Paris they tried ties made out of paper, but the cost was prohibitive, and by the way no insect can penetrate a cornstalk tie, for the cells are all filled with indurated or hardened substance."

"Spreading of the rails is the cause of most of the accidents," says the inventor. "Now I would dovetail the rails into my ties and then there would be no spreading."

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**Lived in Three Centuries and Still Living.**

Hillsboro, Or.—To be older than the United States government, to have been a toddling infant when Washington was inaugurated president in the eighteenth century and to walk erect in full possession of her faculties under Roosevelt's administration in the twentieth century, to have witnessed all the stirring events of a wonder-working century, to have survived out of the old time into ours, has been the good fortune of Mrs. Mary Ramsey Woods of Hillsboro, Or., probably the oldest woman in the world.

In her one hundred and nineteenth year Mrs. Woods is still quite active. Daily she walks about the garden of her daughter's home, with whom she lives, and sits upon the porch in sunny weather to converse with visitors. She keeps well posted on the events of the day and maintains a lively interest in politics.

Mrs. Woods was born on May 20, 1787, at Knoxville, Tenn., two years before the United States constitution went into effect. Her maiden name was Ramsey, and her father burned the brick

**CROSSING THE OCEAN IN A ROWBOAT.**

The picture shows the small boat in which an American named Nordini recently crossed the ocean and landed at Kio, Germany. The craft is a cross between an Icelandic kayak and the racing shell used by university crews. No sail was used in the voyage, and the two bladed paddle shown in the cut was the only means of propulsion. During the several weeks of the voyage Nordini subsisted on the condensed vegetable food with which the boat was ballasted when she left port. The daring navigator was the recipient of much attention

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